

E-Waste Futures Project
Stakeholder Workshop June 20, 2017
Consideration of Adding New Products as Covered Electronic Devices

The purpose of the Future of Electronic Waste Management in California project is to examine current conditions and future options for electronic waste management in California and engage stakeholders in exploring how various approaches could address future challenges. The project is considering different models for the future of the program, including: 1) maintain the existing fee and payment system established in SB 20 for covered electronic wastes, but add products to the definition of a covered electronic device; and 2) analyze and develop an entirely new model for e-waste management in CA based on a Product Stewardship approach (either for currently non-covered devices, or for all e-waste). Both approaches involve determining whether new product categories should be added to the definition of a covered electronic device.

The Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 defines a specific category of electronics as Covered Electronic Devices (CED) (Public Resources Code 42463(e)(1)) for the purposes of the Covered Electronic Waste (CEW) recycling fee and payment system. “Except as provided in paragraph (2), “covered electronic device” means a video display device containing a screen greater than four inches, measured diagonally, that is identified in the regulations adopted by the department pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 25214.10.1 of the Health and Safety Code.”

Over the past few years, many stakeholders have expressed interest in adding new devices to this definition. If such a proposal were to be introduced, CalRecycle suggests that potential products should first be evaluated according to specific criteria. CalRecycle has developed an initial list of criteria that could be considered and is soliciting stakeholder feedback on this. These criteria are not listed in any particular order. (Attachment 1)

In addition to evaluation criteria, concepts concerning what constitutes a product category and specific product definitions must be explored. Some relevant questions are suggested for discussion at the workshop. (Attachment 2)

The June 20, 2017 workshop will include time for small groups to discuss potential criteria and product categories. On Attachment 1, CalRecycle is seeking input on: are the listed criteria relevant; are any important criteria missing; and which criteria (if any) are more critical than others? For Attachment 2, stakeholder input is requested on: which categories make the most sense in California; are there other groupings of product categories; and should other electronic products be included in the categorization?

After soliciting input from stakeholders, CalRecycle will consider developing a weighting system to reflect criteria that are the most critical in product evaluation. CalRecycle may go through an exercise to qualitatively rate specific products or product categories using these criteria.

Attachment 1 – Potential Evaluation Criteria for Adding New Products

Attachment 2 – Potential Product Categories and Definitions